



CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF DOMINICAN REPUBLIC RELEASES RULING THAT VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS OF HAITIANS AND DOMINICANS.

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***Unofficial translation done only for the purpose of being understood.**

Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (RedLad) alerts on the promulgation of laws and constitutional adjudication in Dominican Republic, which injure the protection of human rights of haitian people and increase the xenophobia and discrimination in the country.

The Constitutional Court ordered with court ruling, to try to "foreign" to all persons born in the country since 1929 sons of illegal immigrant parents, especially Haitians. This Court, which has greater range than the Supreme Court said that all Haitian migrants who entered the country in 1929 to work in the cane fields, and who were also subjected to inhumane conditions, are "in transit" so its offspring can not be described as a Dominican citizen.

The 2004 immigration law and the Constitution enacted in 2010 , determined that Haitians temporary migrant workers should be considered "foreigners in transit" , so that their children can not aspire to Dominican nationality .

The Constitutional Court ordered the Central Electoral Board (Junta Central Electoral- JCE) generate in a period of one year, an inventory of "transit migrants" since 1929. It is estimated that in recent years, to more than 40,000 people have been denied the identification card because of their Haitian descent.

In fact, since 2007, the Central Electoral Board started withholding copies of birth certificates and identity cards of Dominicans with Haitian descent, JCE indicates that their legalization was did it in fraudulent form.



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The Redlad, platform more than 520 organizations that defend human rights and democracy, Official Member of the Civil Society Forum of the Organization of American States (OAS) Regional Chapter of the World Movement for Democracy (WMD):

- Condemns the facts and calls on the Dominican authorities to cease the violation of human rights of migrants and xenophobic actions that only exacerbate the anti pluralism and lessen the democratic exercise.
- Requests to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council of the United Nations to analyze the facts and manifest strongly against human rights violations against the Haitian population in the Dominican Republic.
- Encourages civil society organizations, international aid agencies of promotion of human rights and democratic governments to reject the actions and demand full respect of international human rights conventions signed by the Dominican Republic.
- Finally, the Redlad considers that the imposition of such measures only violate human rights, human dignity and heighten the climate of hostility, xenophobia and prejudices between Dominican and Haitian.

**Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe para la Democracia (RedLad).
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